LEFT WHEN HOFFA NAME MENTIONED S-1 8/29/67

Ex-McKeithen Aide Admits Setting Up Partin Talks

A former aide to Gov. John J. McKeithen today said he arranged a meeting between Baton Rouge Teamsters Union boss Edward Grady Partin and a public relations man who brought up the name of James R. Hoffa.

But the one-time gubernatorial security officer, Aubrey Young, said he had no knowledge of the purpose of the meeting and did not sit through it.

When the public relations man "started to discuss Mr. Hoffa with Mr. Partin," Young said in a statement issued at Baton Rouge today, "I left the meeting."

"I AM SURE the FBI, with whom I have cooperated, knows all of the above is true," he added.

Young issued his statement after Life magazine published an article which said that Partin, whose testimony helped put National Teamster Boss Hoffa into prison, turned down a bribe of $1 million to recant his testimony.

The offer of a $1 million bribe to Partin was made through "friends of Hoffa" and the Cosa Nostra—the national crime syndicate — the magazine declared.

PARTIN WAS a government witness against Hoffa in a 1964 Chattanooga, Tenn., trial when the Teamsters chief was

See PARTIN— Page 4

Partin--

Continued from Front Page

convicted of conspiring to tamper with a federal jury. Hoffa is serving an eight-year prison term.

The Life magazine article said $2 million was made available to the Cosa Nostra mobsters "to be payable to anyone who could wreck the government's jury-tampering case on which Hoffa had been convicted."

It said Partin was first contacted by the public relations man and that the meeting was arranged by Young.

YOUNG ADMITTED that the meeting took place at his home on the State Police Headquarters grounds at Baton Rouge. But Young said he did not know what was to be discussed and left the room when Hoffa's name was mentioned.

"I have never had and do not now have any connections directly or indirectly with any persons in the underworld or alleged to be in the underworld," he asserted.

Young said the man who was described as a public relations man by Life was "known to me as a contractor."

Young said he told McKeithen about the January meeting after he left the governor's employ. The statement contradicted the Life report, which said Young resigned after McKeithen learned of the meeting arrangement.

McKeithen refused to be questioned about the Life magazine story. In a prepared statement, the governor said Young's actions "became such that, upon learning of same, I felt he could no longer continue in state service."

"I gather from reading Life there is no suggestion that he has violated the laws . . .," McKeithen said.

Recalling his offer of a position to Young, the governor said:

"He was one of the very few men I had ever known who read his Bible every night and prayed unashamedly to his Lord for strength to fight that weakness with which thousands of well-intentioned Americans are afflicted.

"I am speaking, of course, of alcoholism, which Mr. Young's previous record indicated he had overcome. When he accepted his position with me, I admonished him that his actions and companions must be circumspect and for almost three years all information indicated this was true."